

Jan 8, 1974

Dear Mom & Dad,

The long vacation was very nice - I didn't work from Dec 15 to Jan 1. The Daylight Savings Time doesn't help, though. It feels like the middle of night when I get to work. I don't have any travel plans right now but there will be a lot of opportunities this year. Vickie loved going to Europe and she studied all the historical sights as if it was a class. She can prepare her lessons much faster now and is getting along fine.

We haven't had any snow since getting home and it really hasn't been too cold. We went up to Washington on Saturday to see a show. First we went to the National Gallery to see a special exhibit of the painter Boucher. Afterwards we went to

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a very nice Italian restaurant. The wine bottle was shaped like a fish and the waiter wrapped it up so we could take it home.

I'm sure the clipping will make you glad you're not in Fairbanks. It's hard to beat Seattle as a place to live.

We got a card from Carol Falch but none from Howard Davis this year. Got a card from Shari Riddell - they are living in Virginia Beach (near Norfolk). Mike is on the USS Independence in the Med but will be home later this month.

One Saturday soon I want to get up to the Library of Congress. They will have books on how to trace family trees and may have some books such as the history of Knox County. Hope to see you before too long - Jim & Vickie